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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

REC'D 02 MAR 2005

To:

Albihns Stockholm AB
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PCT WFO PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Date of mailing (day/month/year)		22-02-2005
Applicant's or agent's file reference 72834-77874		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
International application No. PCT/SE 2004/001647	International filing date (day/month/year) 12.11.2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 13.11.2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC B27N 3/02, B27N 3/04		
Applicant SWEDWOOD INTERNATIONAL AB et al		

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☐ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☐ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☒ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further opinions, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
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International application No.

PCT/SE 2004/001647

Box No. I **Basis of this opinion**

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
☐ This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language, _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
☐ a sequence listing
☐ table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
☐ in written format
☐ in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
☐ contained in the international application as filed.
☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	2, 6-10	YES
	Claims	1, 3-5	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	6-10	YES
	Claims	1-5	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-10	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

The following documents were cited in the International Search Report:

D1: EP0162118 A2
D2: EP0065941 A2
D3: AU754553 B2
D4: US6409856 B1
B5: EP1184525 A1
B6: JP7227814 A1

D1 describes a process for the manufacture of a pre-mat from lignocellulose and/or cellulose chips or fibers. The pre-mat is used for manufacturing chipboards or fibreboards (page 1, lines 1-7). According to D1, the mat is formed from a mixture of chips/fibers and binding agent on a moving strip. The mixture passes under a backwards levelling or scraping device (10). The scraping device (10) comprises several endless bands which can be moved upwards or downwards with respect to the mat. The scraping device is connected to a measuring device that measures the density of the mat (page 5-6, lines 20-21). By moving the scraper elements up or down, the density over the mat can be varied (page 2, lines 20-28; page 3, lines 18-32).

According to D1, another possibility by using the device described above is to achieve a mat with higher density in its edge zones and longitudinal zones (page 9, lines 21-25).

Consequently, the board according to claims 1, 3-5 lacks novelty.

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Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: V

The board according to claim 2 seems only to constitute embodiments obvious to person skilled in the art. Consequently, the board according to claim 2 lacks an inventive step.

Documents D2-D6 further describes the prior-art.

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Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawing or on the question whether the claim are fully supported by the description, are made:

Claim 6 is not clear and concise. The claim states that the fraction of particles should be applied more "thickly" than in at least one surrounding area. The expression "thickly" is not clear and concise and does not give indications to a person skilled in the art on how the method should be performed. The expression "thickly" should be re-phrased so that it is evident that the stated areas contain a larger weight fraction of particles than the surrounding areas.